

**DEATH IN A COAL MINE.****Terrific Explosion in the White Ash Mine Near Cerrillos.**

**Twenty-Five Miners Killed by the Explosion and After Damp and Many Injured.**

The most serious accident which has ever happened in a coal mine in this territory occurred in the White Ash mine, three miles from Cerrillos, last Wednesday morning between 10 and 11 o'clock. The loss of life would have been greater if the miners employed at the mine had all been at work, but on account of it being Ash Wednesday, there were only seventy men at work in the mine.

The White Ash is one of the largest mines in New Mexico and is worked from a main entry about three-fourths of a mile in length. From this entry seven levels have been run. The accident happened on the fourth level, about 2,000 feet from the mouth of the mine. Its cause is unknown, but it is believed that one of the miners went into a worked out room, which was full of gas, with an open lamp which ignited the gas and caused the explosion which killed a number of men. The after damp which followed the explosion quickly spread through the mine and prostrated the men in the mine below the second level. Those at work on the second level heard the explosion and thought, at first, that it was a keg of powder which had exploded, but soon became aware of the presence of after damp and all who were working on the second level succeeded in getting out although some were overcome and had to be carried out by their companions.

The news of the accident spread rapidly and in a short time there were hundreds of people at the mouth of the mine. Many of the miners employed in the mine had families and the scene, when it became known that there had been an explosion in the mine and that more than forty men were still in the mine, beggars description.

For a time it was thought that the mine was on fire but this proved to be incorrect. Attempts were made to get to the imprisoned miners but, owing to the poisonous gasses which filled the mine, it was about four hours after the explosion before the first body was recovered and that was the body of a trapper boy found 1,200 feet down the incline. It was nearly midnight before the last body was recovered, there being 25 in all killed and 18 injured. None of the injured will die.

Eleven of the men who were killed had families dependent upon them for support. Soon after the news of the disaster reached Santa Fe a bill was passed by

the legislature appropriating \$6,500 for the relief of the families of the miners who had been killed and a committee was appointed to distribute the funds. The funeral which took place on Friday was the largest ever seen in New Mexico in time of peace. Services were conducted at the Catholic and Methodist churches at Cerrillos and the long line of coffins were borne to their resting place.

J. W. Fleming, United States mine inspector, was about to go down into the mine to inspect it when the explosion occurred.

**Blanks Sent Out.**

Collector Shannon has already sent out about 600 notifications and blanks to persons and corporations in New Mexico and Arizona, presumed to be subject to income tax, says the New Mexican. All corporations, whatever their incomes, are required to make returns, but individuals, whose incomes do not exceed \$4,000, need not report. So far, only nine returns have been made. It is presumed that most of the tax-payers are holding back, expecting the time to be extended by congress, to April 15. All who are subject to the tax are required to make returns, whether they receive blanks or not, otherwise it will be the duty of the collector to assess them with a 50 per cent. penalty. The penalties for making false returns are very severe. Collectors and deputy collectors are required to treat all information received by them from income tax-payers as strictly confidential.

Dr. R. H. Longwill, of Santa Fe, one of the oldest residents of the territory, died last week at Philadelphia where he went some time ago for medical treatment.

A little son of A. D. Ross has been quite ill for several days past.

Charles D. McClure, president of the Granite Mountain Mining company, arrived this week and went to Mogollon to look at some mining property.

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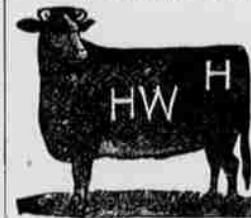
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